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A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The amount received from paying patients and the portion credited to the Government during the year 1924–25, 1925–26 and 1926–27 were as shown below :—

Year.	Amount received.	Amount credited to Government.
	RS.	RS.
1924–25	14,269	3,644
1925–26	14,947	3,851
1926–27	18,121	4,619

Note.—(1) The figures include also the fees received by the staff of the Institute for X-ray work done outside the Institute.

(2) Information for calendar years is not available.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) Yes; but, according to the terms of his appointment, he is permitted to accept private practice in his special branch of work.

(*e*) The amount of the fee charged in any case is a matter between the patient and the radiologist.

(*f*) The officer in charge of the X-Ray Department of the General Hospital is not a medical man. He is a specialist in X-ray work of great experience. Prior to his appointment as Government Radiologist he had worked for eight years in the London Hospital and had also been employed for over two and a half years as X-Ray Specialist at the Colaba War Hospital, Bombay. Recently, while on leave in England he underwent a special course of study in the technique of X-ray treatment as carried out at the London Hospital.

Appointment of an agency for controlling the supply of milk, etc., in hospitals.

*1652 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. Saldanha : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the various agencies by which the milk supply, stores, etc., and cooking in the culinary department of Government hospitals in the Madras City are controlled and checked, to prevent leakage, pilferage and adulteration of milk and ghee and other stores, and to ensure satisfactory, efficient and economic management of the cooking and diet supplied to patients ;

(*b*) the orders passed by the Government regarding the appointment of such agency ; and

(*c*) (1) under what circumstances the kitchen department in the Rayapuram Government Hospital was handed over to the Sisters of Charity, (2) how the arrangement has worked and (3) if satisfactory and successful, why it is not and why it cannot be introduced in other hospitals ?

A.—(*a*) There is in each hospital a definite and efficient organization to control the quantity and quality of stores, to prevent adulteration, and to ensure satisfactory cooking. The Superintendent, the Resident Medical Officer and the Medical Officers on duty

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see to the correctness of the quantity and quality of purchased articles; the stewards and assistant stewards are responsible for their distribution after receipt and are required to furnish a monetary security; they work under the direct and constant supervision of the Superintendent, the Resident Medical Officer and the Medical Officer on duty. Their accounts are regularly checked by the hospital staff and monthly by the audit staff of the Accountant-General's office. The sisters and nurses on duty are responsible for seeing that each patient gets his full diet, properly cooked.

(b) The orders passed by the Government are contained in Appendix XI of the Madras Civil Medical Code.

(c) (i) At a conference of the Superintendents of the Government hospitals in Madras City held in August 1924, to consider the question of the dieting of patients, it was considered advisable to make provision for a more detailed and more immediate supervision in the kitchen department in order to prevent leakage. The Surgeon-General was asked to consider the question of appointing nuns for the purpose and, on his recommendation, the Government sanctioned the employment of four nuns in the Rayapuram Hospital as an experimental measure.

(ii) The arrangement has worked satisfactorily.

(iii) Nuns have not been appointed for the other hospitals because quarters are not available for them in those institutions. In Rayapuram, the nuns have been accommodated in rooms on the upper floor of the out-patient's department. It has not been possible to make similar arrangements in the other hospitals.

Public Health

Leper asylums in the Presidency.

*1653 Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) how many leper asylums are maintained by the Madras Government throughout the Presidency;

(b) the strength of each asylum and the average cost to the Government for maintaining one leper;

(c) whether the Chingleput Leper Asylum is a Government institution; if not, who is the owner of the buildings;

(d) what the contribution is that is made by the Government to that institution per annum;

(e) what control the Government are exercising over the affairs of that institution; and

(f) how many lepers were turned out of the asylum during the recent strike and how many were taken back?